



FLORIDA REPEATER COUNCIL, INC.

NEWSLETTER

Volume IX Issue 2

<http://florida-repeaters.org>

December 2001

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ray Kassis, N4LEM

There are less than 2% of the 1000+ repeaters the FRC has in its data base that have problems. Over the years the Directors and staff have worked to solve most conflicts. I can say that the FRC today seems to be running smoothly. Thanks to all repeater operators for being a huge help! Continue to update the data base with any changes and always check first with the data base manager before you make a change. Thank you for supporting the FRC! We want to hear from you. Let your Director know about any problems you are having. The FRC is dedicated to Ham Radio and the use of the amateur repeater service. I believe Florida Hams who are involved with the operation of amateur repeaters are keeping the Life-line of our hobby going strong

73
Ray Kassis
N4LEM
President



Communications is the life blood of the Florida Repeater Council

TREASURERS REPORT

Dana Rodakis, K4LK

Balance 9/8/01:	\$7883.05
Income:	\$310.00
Expenditures:	\$171.45
Balance 1/8/02:	\$8021.70

Minutes of Melbourne Board Meeting

**FLORIDA REPEATER COUNCIL, INC.
MINUTES OF OPEN FORUM AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 8, 2001
MELBOURNE, FLORIDA**

The following staff were in attendance:

Directors in attendance were:

- District 1: Nilo A. Hernandez, W4HN
- District 2:
- District 3:
- District 4: Paul Knupke Jr., KR4YL
- District 5:
- District 6: Dave Armbrust, AE4MR
- District 7: Ted Wirick, W7YJC
- District 8: Frank Butler, W4RH

Staff Members in attendance were:

- President: Ray Kassis, N4LEM
- Vice President: Ira R. Bickham Jr., K8HRR
- Secretary/Treasurer: Dana G. Rodakis, K4LK
- Database Manager: Dana G. Rodakis, K4LK

The open forum was started at 2:00 PM on September 8, 2001 by President Ray Kassis, N4LEM.

President Kassis welcomed all present and explained that the first part of the meeting would be an open format, where anyone could express any thoughts. This portion of meeting would lead into the formal

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FEBRUARY ANNUAL MEETING

The next meeting of the FRC Board of Directors and Staff will be held at the Orlando Hamfest on February 9, 2002. See hamfest forum schedule for time. There will be an open forum prior to the Directors Meeting to allow members to express their opinions and ideas.

2001 FRC Directory

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321-453-2309

29/144/222/420/902/1240 MHz COORDINATOR/ DATABASE MANAGER/WEBMASTER/ SECRETARY/TREASURER

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DISTRICT #5 DIRECTOR

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DISTRICT #8 DIRECTOR

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850-244-5425
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(Bay, Calhoun, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Taylor, Wakulla, Walton, and Washington Counties)

Your Staff and Directors are willing to help you. Please avail yourself of their services.

NOTICE

Please send all certified mail to District 1 Director Nilo Hernandez. He will sign for the mail and forward it to the appropriate staff member in the Council

FRC NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Dana G. Rodakis
FRC Secretary/Treasurer
6280 Fairfield Ave. So.
St. Petersburg, Florida 33707-2323
727-381-3344

2001 DATABASE CHANGES
(01/01/01 through 12/31/01)
(Listed in reverse chronological order)

New Coordinations or Transfers

- 145.370 Hialeah
- 147.150 Miami
- 147.345 Tampa
- 145.250 Redwater Lake
- 146.940 Mangonia Park
- 145.490 West Palm Beach
- 146.880 Riviera Beach
- 146.880 North Bay Village
- 145.310 Clearwater
- 147.285 DeFuniak Springs
- 224.460 Pompano Beach
- 442.200 Ft. Lauderdale
- 146.610 Pompano Beach
- 146.940 Lake City
- 146.805 Spring Hill
- 145.390 Jupiter
- 145.490 Mangonia Park
- 224.020 St. Petersburg
- 145.210 Pensacola
- 147.045 Miami
- 145.470 Bunnell
- 442.275 Eva
- 145.490 Lake City
- 147.150 Lake City
- 147.015 Port Charlotte
- 145.330 West Palm Beach
- 147.315 West Palm Beach
- 443.300 West Palm Beach
- 146.985 Hollywood
- 147.045 Bradenton
- 145.210 Panama City
- 147.060 San Mateo
- 443.150 Tampa
- 145.350 West Palm Beach
- 444.000 Sarasota
- 443.250 Ocala
- 441.700 Winter Haven
- 146.700 Okeechobee
- 146.700 Milton
- 441.800 Winter Haven
- 224.800 Winter Haven
- 147.330 Ocala
- 145.490 Milton
- 224.720 Kendall
- 224.060 Winter Haven
- 224.600 Adventura
- 442.300 Venice
- 444.550 Interlachen
- 442.100 Tallahassee
- 146.850 Milton
- 146.835 Sebring
- 444.950 Marianna
- 146.670 Marianna
- 224.740 Tampa
- 444.075 New Smyrna Beach
- 443.950 Orlando
- 444.175 Ormond Beach
- 444.275 Orlando
- 146.760 Ft. Myers
- 442.525 Miami
- 443.525 Morriston
- 145.230 West Palm Beach
- 146.670 Lake Placid
- 224.860 Mims
- 146.940 Tampa
- 146.730 Stuart
- 444.500 Ft. Myers
- 147.105 Marathon
- 444.925 Cocoa
- 442.475 Hollywood
- 146.685 Melbourne
- 442.725 Tampa
- 145.490 Tampa
- 145.490 Sumterville
- 147.060 N. Miami Beach

De-Coordinations by Trustee Request (New coordination not issued)

- 444.300 Largo
- 444.575 Hawthorne
- 442.950 Palm Beach Gardens
- 1293.100 Clermont
- 223.960 Pompano Beach
- 1293.100 Miami
- 441.550 Plantation
- 146.955 Sarasota
- 146.865 Port St. Lucie
- 442.725 Tampa
- 442.300 Sarasota
- 146.700 Ft. McCoy

Frequency Changes

NONE

NOTE: For a detailed list of database changes visit the following:
<http://florida-repeaters.org/dbchange.htm>

FRC Dues

The mailing label shows the year [in brackets] through which your dues are paid. Clip this coupon and mail with your \$10.00 annual dues. Your cancelled check is your receipt.

This coupon is NOT a substitute for your repeater update.

Name: _____

Callsign: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

E-Mail: _____

Repeater callsign: _____

Repeater City: _____

Output frequency(s): _____

Signature: _____

Make checks payable to: Florida Repeater Council

Mail to:

Dana G. Rodakis, K4LK

6280 Fairfield Ave. So.

St. Petersburg, FL 33707-2323

(Meeting Minutes continued from page 1)

portion of the meeting when completed.

Mario Leiva, KR4DQ requested clarification from the Council concerning the use of a remote base attached to a 1,000 foot repeater that is used to access another distance repeater. Considerable discussion about interference to other users and repeaters along the path.

Chuck Esposito, N4EHM, reported that he appeared before the FRC Board in February 2001 presenting the paperwork to acquire the 146.340/146.940 pair to replace the Florida Boys Ranch repeater. About 5 months later, the Coordinator returned his application with notice that the originally coordinated trustee, Mr. Dave Stocky, K4KE, planned to return his repeater to service. Mr. Esposito claims that the equipment is owned by the Boys' Ranch and not Mr. Stocky. Mr. Esposito claims that Mr. Stocky wants his callsign off the repeater. Mr. Joe Bushell has requested that Mr. Stocky transfer the coordination to him. Mr. Esposito claims that Mr. Bushell is the ARES representative of Columbia county and has been voted out of the County. Mr. Esposito claims that the Boys' Ranch wants the repeater removed. Mr. Esposito claims that the repeater has been inactive for more than two years. Considerable discussion followed. It was decided to entertain a motion during the business meeting to grant a coordination to Mr. Esposito.

Mike Forsythe, KG4EMA, requested a 2-meter repeater pair in Jupiter. The coordinator indicated that no pairs are available. The frequency pair is 145.390 has a co-channel repeater 82 miles away. It was decided to entertain a motion during the business meeting to grant a conditional coordination to Mr. Forsythe.

Doug Ferrell, KD4MOJ, reported that inactive repeaters previously reported are still listed in the directory. Considerable discussion about paper repeaters followed.

Bill, N4XEO, reported that he heard a portable repeater was going to be coordinated with a 1 MHz split for emergencies. Considerable discussion followed.

Open forum closed at 2:45 PM and formal portion of the meeting was opened.

The Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 2:45 PM on September 8, 2001 by President Ray Kassis, N4LEM, who determined that a quorum of qualified Directors were in attendance.

President Kassis called for a motion to accept the minutes from the last meeting as published on the web and in the newsletter for all to read. The motion was made, seconded and passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Opening balance:	\$7,918.84
Income:	\$1,860.00
Expenses:	\$1,985.79
Ending balance:	\$7,793.05

WEBMASTER REPORT:

Website is receiving 20 hits per day. Have received spam from search engines. Newsletters are now posted. A new listing format has been implemented for the three most popular bands. Any comments are appreciated. New list of repeaters to be omitted from next report has been posted. It's up to the Directors to peruse the list and contact delinquent trustees. Coordinator's remainder may be of interest to the rest of the FRC staff.

COORDINATOR/DATABASE MANAGER REPORT:

A list of changes to the database is posted on the web site. An exact number of coordinations was unavailable. There is currently 1,101 repeaters in the database. How many of those are actually active is unknown.

REPORTS OF DIRECTORS:

DISTRICT 1:

No problems.

DISTRICT 2:

The passing away of W4UJ removed the 146.88 repeater coordination in WPB and allows for full protection for the 146.88 in Ft. Lauderdale.

The repeater 147.165 in WPB is experiencing some unknown interference recently and has been turned off until the interference can be identified. The interference keys the machine once every 2 to 3 seconds, interferes with communications, and is taxing the repeater.

Due to lack of attention and electrical payment the 146.94 in WPB has been turned off by the tower owner. WA4FAP has neglected the repeater and it has drifted 1500 Hz off frequency and the TX audio is very distorted. The tower owner is going to re-estate the frequency after 90 days and advise the Council that he wishes to begin the 60 day clock to transfer the coordination to him.

The repeater 147.255 in Boca Raton has received a grant from the Federal Govt. to replace it's repeaters. The City of Boca is in the process of procuring the repeaters.

Broward and Martin Counties are quiet.

DISTRICT 3:

No report.

DISTRICT 4:

Director Paul declares the Council involvement with the 146.640 interference complaint between Holiday and Orlando cbsd since it is being handled by the FCC. Considerable discussion followed.

The uncoordinated upside-down 449.600 MHz repeater is still being operated by Wally Cashman, W4EFK who has informed Riley Hollingsworth of the FCC that he is not planning to change the configuration of his repeater even though he informed the Council that he was planning to invert it. Riley has not responded. The correctly-operating repeater in Winter Haven is still suffering

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interference. Considerable discussion followed.

The 442.95 repeater in Oviedo has complained about interference from the Verna repeater. The directors believe that the operator is experiencing coverage overlap and not interference.

DISTRICT 5:

No report.

DISTRICT 6:

No problems.

DISTRICT 7:

The 147.075 repeater in Flagler beach is operating within its coordination. No further action is necessary.

DISTRICT 8:

Received letter from Lee Rodby indicating that he sent reports to Database Manager but received no response. The Database Manager indicated that he has processed the reports and responded.

OLD BUSINESS:

Coordinator Rodakis indicated that, at the last meeting, an amateur was going to author an article about the benefits of CTCSS (PL). There has been no article submitted, nor do we know who that amateur was. An article was prepared recently by Paul Toth, NA4AR. Copies were distributed to the Directors and President for review. If approved, it can be published on the web and newsletter.

Certified mail procedure has been established.

NEW BUSINESS:

Database Manager Rodakis gave a history of an action he had in 1999 to locate more modern database software for fear of Y2K problems in the old File Express. None occurred during the rollover to 2000. He recently created a new database using a commercially available database program that he has been using on the Macintosh for a number of years called FileMaker Pro. It is available for Windows. Director Knupke indicated in a previous email that the directors should be allowed to obtain a copy and be reimbursed. President Kassis indicated in a previous email that he would like to see a demonstration of the software. A demo of the new database was conducted by the Database Manager. It was well received. The data can be exported back to File Express if needed. A motion was made and seconded for Director Knupke to research pricing on a volume purchase of FileMaker Pro. If not available, then each Director can purchase his own copy and be reimbursed by the Treasurer.

A motion was made and seconded to require a minimum antenna height of 50 feet above ground level to the top of the antenna for coordination. Passed.

Coordination policy needs to be reviewed to set minimum repeater spacing based upon frequency, output power and antenna height, instead of using a fixed separation of 85 miles for all cases.

The Council needs to allocate a repeater pair on 144 and 440 MHz statewide for emergency use. This item is tabled until the Orlando meeting in February.

The Council needs to develop a unified approach to dealing with paper repeaters. Considerable discussion followed. This item is tabled until the Orlando meeting in February.

A motion was made and seconded to allocate \$200 for printing and postage in support of legislation concerning tower building restrictions. Passed.

A motion was made and seconded to grant a conditional coordination on 145.390 MHz to KG4EMA (club call W4SRT). Passed.

A motion was made and seconded to grant a full coordination on 146.940 MHz to K4EHM. Passed. A notification letter will be sent to Joe Bushell and Dave Stocky.

A motion was made and seconded instructing the Coordinator to notify the FCC the current status of the 449.600 repeater operated by Wally Cashman, W4EFK.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted by
Dana Rodakis, K4LK
Secretary

FLORIDA REPEATER COUNCIL, INC.

Office of the Secretary/Treasurer

Dana G. Rodakis

6280 Fairfield Ave. So.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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FLORIDA REPEATER COUNCIL, INC.

MESSAGE FROM THE DATABASE MANAGER

Due to the tremendous growth of Amateur radio, especially 2 meters, there are few (if any) repeater pairs available in most areas in the state. Many of the coordinated repeaters are inactive, or are being used for other purposes, such as simplex autopatches. Some repeaters have no inputs and their outputs are simply re-transmitting other active repeaters simply to generate activity. Some amateurs simply like to hoard repeater pairs for future use. In addition, repeater licensees are relocating their repeaters or increasing the antenna height or output power without authorization from the FRC Coordinators - in direct violation of FRC Coordination Policy.

Please notify the appropriate FRC Coordinator (see the Directory of FRC Staff and Directors), if you suspect that a repeater is inactive, is no longer in its coordinated location, has an abnormally large coverage area, has no receiver, or is being used for a simplex autopatch.

The FRC needs your help in locating the repeater pairs that are being used for anything but legitimate full-duplex repeaters, so that they may be re-coordinated to amateurs who will use them properly.

The frequency of repeater status reports has changed. In odd-numbered years, reports are due from even-

numbered districts and in even-numbered years, reports are due from odd-numbered districts.

I have prepared a LIST of repeaters that WILL NOT BE INCLUDED in the next report to the ARRL for their 2002-2003 ARRL Repeater Directory (due out Spring 2002). Either they are uncoordinated or the required bi-annual update HAS NOT BEEN received from the coordinated trustee. If any of these repeaters are familiar to you, then please urge the trustee to submit the required update by February 1, 2002. Check your mailing label for the repeater that is most overdue for a status report. For the most up-to-date list, visit the FRC web site at the following URL: <http://florida-repeaters.org/rptromit01.pdf>

The Council web site contains a wealth of information, including the latest repeater listings, Council By-Laws, coordination policy, minutes of the Board of Directors meetings, and links to other coordinating agencies and pages of interests to the amateur radio operators. For the most up-to-date repeater listings visit the following URL: <http://florida-repeaters.org/dblist.htm>

Repeater status reports and applications for new or changed coordinations can be submitted on-line by visiting the
